

THE LINK

February 2012

From the Pastor...



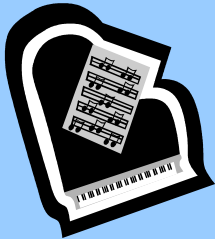
OLD PEACHTREE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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What to Do During the Offertory

At a recent Worship Committee meeting, I had an epiphany (and lived to tell about it!). It occurred to me that something I took for granted may not be so plain to everyone else: what to do during the collection of tithes and offerings. After all, placing your offering in the plate takes about two seconds at the most. What do you do the rest of the time?

Let me tell you what I am doing during that time, and then I'll give a few suggestions that arose from our conversation at the meeting.

I'm doing basically three things.

- ◆ Praying. I am praying for God to prepare me to preach, to fill me with his Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Thinking. I am usually thinking about the sermon, reviewing it in my mind, especially the opening words.
- ◆ Listening. I love listening to the offertory on the piano or from the choir. It stirs my heart and helps to prepare me emotionally to preach.

Here are some suggestions for you to use to help make that time profitable.

- ◆ Think about the words to the tune of the offertory, if it is a hymn.
- ◆ Listen to the music and let it move you.
- ◆ Pray for me and for God's blessing on the preaching of the word soon to follow.
- ◆ Read through the sermon text or another passage of Scripture.
- ◆ Take your child to the nursery if he is just transitioning to the service and participating in only half of it at this point.

What *not* to do: Check email, play your move in Words with Friends, or tweet comments on the service!

The offertory takes up to five minutes or more of the service. Certainly the moment of dropping your offering in the plate should be one of thanksgiving and devotion. But it is only a moment. Make the rest of the time worshipful and spiritually profitable as well.

MEETINGS AND GROUPS

First Sunday Lunch

Join us on Sunday, February 5, for our monthly First Sunday Lunch immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service. We extend a special invitation to visitors. Please invite your friends and neighbors.

Deacons Meeting

The Deacons meet the second Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The next meeting will be Monday, February 13.

Session Meeting

The Session meets the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The next meeting will be February 20.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY MEETINGS

Elmer	-	(7:00 p.m.)	-	Wednesday	-	February	-	1st
Grabenkort	-	(7:00 p.m.)	-	Wednesday	-	February	-	1st
Filer	-	(7:00 p.m.)	-	Friday	-	February	-	10th & 24th
				(Filer	-	every other Friday		through April)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for our OPPC Women's Bible Study. We meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Child care is provided. Studying Acts, we will use study material by Carol Ruvolo.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our Men's Bible Study will resume on Friday, February 10, at 6:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We will be studying *The Christian Life: A Doctrinal Introduction*, by Sinclair Ferguson. The books are \$8.00 and will be available on the book table. We take turns providing breakfast and end promptly at 7:30.

EXPLORERS CLASS

Join us for our next Explorers Class Sunday, February 5, at 9:45 a.m. This class, led by Pastor Johnson, is for anyone who is interested in joining OPPC or who just wants to learn more about us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Georgia Foothills PresWIC Brunch - Saturday, March 17

Mission Conference - Saturday & Sunday, March 24 & 25

40th Annual General Assembly, Louisville, KY - June 19 - 22, 2012

NURSERY SCHEDULE - February 2012

DATE	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	GREETER (10:45 at table)	6:00 p.m.
2/5	Jeans	Filer, Johnson, Schramm	B. Johnson	No Service
2/12	Nickell, Richards	Carter, Greninger, Mutchler	J. Covington	Bennett
2/19	Fridsma	Elmer, Turner	K. Wykoff	Akin
2/26	Walker	Appleton, Oliver, Wilson	T. Oliver	Foster, Richards

LINK DEADLINE: Please turn in articles and information for the February *LINK* by Friday, February 24.

Old Peachtree Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God and to extend the kingdom of Jesus Christ. To accomplish this end, Old Peachtree aims to be a church that is continually growing in vital worship, in theological depth, in true fellowship, in assertive evangelism, and in deeds of compassion. The distinctiveness of Old Peachtree is in its desire to be Presbyterian in government and Reformed in theology, with the vitality that comes from evangelism and discipleship.

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